

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

1-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling at least one radiation source of a vehicle illuminating an illumination range, comprising:

monitoring by at least one sensor at least part of the illumination range for a presence of at least one object;

generating by the at least one sensor a sensor signal as a function of the at least one object present; and

automatically performing at least one of the following as a function of the sensor signal:

(i) switching off the at least one radiation source if a distance to the at least one object is less than a predetermined limiting value, and

(ii) ~~reducing~~ regulating a radiation intensity of the radiation source as a function of an approach of the vehicle to the at least one object, wherein the approach is determined from the sensor signal.

12. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the radiation source includes a headlight emitting light at least in a near infrared wavelength range.

13. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein the at least one sensor includes at least one of:

at least one ultrasound sensor,

at least one radar sensor operating in a wavelength range of at least one of 24 GHz and 77 GHz,

at least one LIDAR sensor, and

at least one video sensor.

14. (Canceled).

15. (Canceled).

16. (Currently Amended) The method recited in claim [[15]] 11, wherein the radiation intensity is approximately proportional to ~~at least one of an~~ the approach to the at least one object ~~and a distance to the at least one object~~.

17. (Canceled).

18. (Currently Amended) The method as recited in claim 11, further comprising:
issuing a warning for the at least one object present, the warning corresponding to at least one of an acoustic warning signal and a visual warning signal.

19. (Currently Amended) A device for controlling a radiation source of a vehicle illuminating an illumination range, comprising:

at least one sensor configured ~~in such a way~~ so that the at least one sensor monitors at least part of the illumination range of the radiation source for a presence of at least one object, the at least one sensor generating a sensor signal as a function of the at least one object present[[,]]; and

at least one processing unit that, ~~as a function of the sensor signal~~, configured to perform at least one of the following as a function of the sensor signal: (i) switches switching off the radiation source if a distance to the at least one object is less than a predetermined limiting value, and ~~reduces an~~ (ii) regulating a radiation intensity of the radiation source as a function of an approach of the vehicle to the at least one object, wherein the approach is determined from the sensor signal.

20. (Previously Presented) The device as recited in claim 19, wherein the device is used in a night vision system of a motor vehicle.